

(b) Since there are no restrictions of inter-state movement of yarn, demands of yarn by handloom and powerloom sectors are met out of the production of all the spinning mills in the country.

(c) Does not arise in view of 'b' above.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of 'd' above.

[English]

Funds Under UN TC-DC Programme

2830. DR. RAVI MALLU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UN has been providing grants with matching Indian funds under UN TC-DC Programme.

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) the funds actually received and the amount actually spent;

(d) reasons for non-expenditure of this amount;

(e) whether Government propose to utilise these funds through several well-established NGOs; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f). Question does not arise.

Stipend to Ex-Servicemen at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune

2831. SHRI GUMAN MAL LODHA: Will

the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the monthly stipend given to disabled Ex-Servicemen undergoing vocational training at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune at present;

(b) the date from which it was revised/enhanced;

(c) whether the Government have any plans to enhance stipend from time to time;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government propose to open more such technical schools in other regions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Disabled ex-Servicemen undergoing vocational training at Queen Mary's Technical School, Kirkee, Pune, are not being paid any monthly stipend.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

(e) No, Sir.

Devaluation of Rupee

2832. SHRIDILEEP SINGH BHURIA:
SHRI M.V. CHANDRASEKHARA MURTHY:
PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATASWARLU:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to further devalue the rupee in near future;

(b) if so, upto what extent and reasons therefor;

(c) if not, whether the Government propose to pledge gold proportionate to currency notes issued by the Reserve Bank of India for the purpose of maintaining the credibility of the rupee in the international market; and

(d) if not, the other measures being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal.

(d) The Government has already undertaken a package of macro economic stabilisation measures such as the liberalised exchange rate management system (LERMS), restoration of fiscal discipline and a tight monetary policy along with structural reforms in the spheres of trade and industry. These policies are expected to increase efficiency and productivity, impart dynamism to the growth process and thereby provide a solid foundation for higher exports and overall growth. The objective of restoring confidence in the Indian economy has been achieved. Foreign exchange reserves have increased substantially and rate of inflation has decelerated. We have been able to redeem the gold pledged by the RBI and also the gold sold by the SBI earlier.

[Translation]

Seizure of Gold and Contraband Items on Indo-Nepal Border

2833. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI:
SHRI RAM PAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of smuggled goods seized on the Indo-Nepal border during the year 1991-92, so far;

(b) the quantum of gold and other contraband items seized from the smugglers and the amount of revenue earned as a result thereof; and

(c) the number of smugglers apprehended and the details of the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b). Available reports and the seizures made indicate that gold, synthetic yarn, ball bearings, electronic goods, photographic cameras, films, narcotic drugs, etc. continue to be sensitive to smuggling across the Indo-Nepal border. The quantity and value of gold and the value of other contraband seized in the Indo-Nepal sector of the land border; the value of seized/confiscated gold deposited in the Government of India Mints and the value of other contraband goods disposed of by the Indo-Nepal Border Customs Collectorate, Patna, during the year 1991-92 so far are given below:

Year	<i>Goods Seized</i>		<i>Value of goods disposed of</i>		
	<i>Gold</i>		<i>Other contraband goods</i>		
	<i>Quantity (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>Value (Rs. in lakhs)</i>	<i>(Rs. in lakhs)</i>	
				<i>Gold</i>	<i>Other contraband goods</i>
1991-92*	6.3	25.39	2986	237	414

*Figures are provisional